

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Supplemental Amendment is in response to the telephone conversation with the Examiner on April 16, 2004. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for a timely and thorough review of Applicants' Amendment of January 28, 2004 and for the recommended amendments to the claims presented herein. Independent Claims 22 and 31 have been amended; dependent Claims 24, 26, and 41 have been amended; and dependent Claims 23, 39, and 40 have been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that in light of the claim amendments, the application is now in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims

Independent Claim 22 has been amended to more particularly claim providing true 3-D geometric tow definition "to perform quantifiable computational assessments of common geometric flaws such as tow gaps and overlaps." In addition, Claim 22 has been amended to include the step of "using the translated final design in order to manufacture the composite structure."

Similarly, independent Claim 31 has been amended to more particularly claim "providing true 3-D geometric tow definition of individual tows of the composite to the closed loop design system to perform quantifiable computational assessments of common geometric flaws such as tow gaps and overlaps." In addition, Claim 31 has been amended to include the step of "using the translated final design in order to manufacture the composite structure."

Dependent Claims 24, 26, and 41 have been amended to renumber the claims from which each claim depends because of the cancellation of intervening Claims 23, 39, and 40, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 22, 23-38, and 41-44 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the Claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued in due course. Examiner Perez-Daple is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that fees for extensions of time or additional fees for net addition of claims are required. However, in the event that additional extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fees required are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

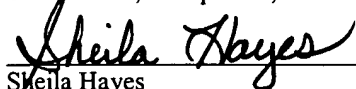


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22317-1450, on April 22, 2004



Sheila Hayes